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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 21730 151602Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 PA-02
PRS-01 SSM-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00
DODE-00 IO-14 /055 W
----------057846 151606Z /44
O 151552Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2965
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 21730

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ; ATHERTON BRIEFING

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON GAVE BACKGROUND BRIEFING DECEMBER 14 TO GROUP OF AMERICAN MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING CAIRO CONFERENCE. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF THE ONE PORTION OF BRIEFING THAT WAS NOT ON BACKGROUND AND COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO ATHERTON:

2. QUESTION: "FIRST, WHAT DO WE EXPECT OF THIS CAIRO MEETING WHILE MR. BEGIN'S VISIT IS GOING ON, AND, SECOND, WHAT DO WE EXPECT AS AN OVERALL OBJECTIVEOF THE CAIRO MEETING."

3. ATHERTON: "ON THE FIRST, THERE IS A LOT OF GROUNDWORK TO BE DONE, AND I THINK THAT MEETINGS HERE CAN PROCEED AS THEY WERE ORIGINALLY PLANNED TO PROCEED, EVEN IF MR. BEGIN WERE IN WASHINGTON, TO BEGIN TO LAY THIS GROUNDWORK. AS FOR THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE, ONEOF THE THINGS THAT WE'RE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT IN THE EETING HERE WILL BE TO TRY TO DEFINE MORE PRECISELY WHAT THE OVERALL OBJECTIVE IS BUT, IN GENERAL TERMS I THINK THERE'S ALREADY AGREEMENT: IT'S TO BEGIN TO DEAL WITH THE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES OF AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT TO SEE WHETHER IT'S POSSIBLE TO COME TO SOME MEETING OF THE MINDS BETWEEN THE EGYPTIANS AND THE ISRAELIS ON THESE SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES NOT JUST AS THEY RELATE
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 21730 151602Z

TO EGYPT AND ISRAEL BUT AS THEY RELATE TO AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT INVOLVING ISRAEL AND ALL OF ITS NEIGHBORS. THE OTHER OBJECTIVE IS TO SEE WHETHER IT'S POSSIBLE TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THE KIND OF PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS THAT WE WERE WRESTLING WITH BEFORE THE SADAT VISIT TO JERUSALEM THAT WILL HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH AND RESOLVED BEFORE A GENEVA CONFERENCE CAN BE CONVENED."

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4. NEW SUBJECT: SAME DAY, ATHERTON WAS INTERVIEWED ON CAMERA AND SEPARATELY BY NBC,CBS AND ABC. ASSUME DEPARTMENT HAS SEEN INTERVIEWS SINCE STATE 299052 CONTAINED TEXT AS BROADCAST OF NBC ONE. HOWEVER, WE COULD CABLE TEXTS OF ABC AND CBS INTERVIEWS IF NEEDED. ADVISE.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 229482
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ; ATHERTON BRIEFING
TAGS: SOPN, US, XF, EG, IS, (ATHERTON, ALFRED L)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/05426d03-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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